



State of Wisconsin  
2011 - 2012 LEGISLATURE



LRBs0183/4  
EVM:wlj:ph

**SENATE SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1,  
TO 2011 SENATE BILL 96**

October 13, 2011 – Offered by COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ELECTIONS.

1     **AN ACT** *to renumber* 218.0133 (2) (d); *to renumber and amend* 218.0125 (1);  
2           *to amend* 218.0116 (1) (km), 218.0116 (1) (rm), 218.0116 (10), 218.0125 (2),  
3           218.0125 (3), 218.0125 (4), 218.0125 (5), 218.0133 (title), 218.0133 (2) (a),  
4           218.0133 (2) (b) 1. b., 218.0133 (2) (b) 1. c., 218.0133 (2) (b) 2., 218.0133 (4) (a),  
5           218.0133 (5) (a) 2., 218.0133 (5) (d), 218.0133 (6) (b) and 218.0163 (1) (a); and  
6           **to create** 218.0116 (1) (um), 218.0116 (1) (vm), 218.0116 (1) (wm), 218.0116 (1)  
7           (xm), 218.0116 (1) (y), 218.0116 (1) (ym), 218.0116 (1) (ys), 218.0125 (1) (b),  
8           218.0125 (3m), 218.0125 (4m), 218.0128, 218.0133 (1) (c), 218.0133 (2) (d) 2.,  
9           218.0133 (2) (d) 3., 218.0133 (2) (f), 218.0133 (4) (e), 218.0133 (4) (f), 218.0133  
10          (5) (a) 4d., 218.0133 (5) (a) 4h., 218.0133 (5) (a) 4p., 218.0133 (5) (a) 4t. and  
11          218.0133 (7) of the statutes; **relating to:** motor vehicle dealers.

---

***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

Under current law, each manufacturer, importer, distributor, and dealer of motor vehicles that wishes to sell motor vehicles in this state must be licensed by the

Department of Transportation (DOT). The manufacturer, importer, or distributor may have its license revoked and may be liable for pecuniary losses and attorney fees incurred by the dealer, if the manufacturer, importer, or distributor takes certain actions with respect to a dealer that have been enumerated as violations.

This substitute amendment enumerates several additional actions of a manufacturer, importer, or distributor, other than a manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles, with respect to a dealer as violations. These newly designated violations are: 1) conditioning certain agreements or approvals on the dealer's entry into a contract that allows the manufacturer, importer, or distributor to control the disposition or use of the dealer's dealership facilities; 2) unreasonably conditioning certain agreements or approvals on the dealer's improvement of the dealer's dealership facilities at a substantial cost to the dealer; 3) unreasonably requiring a dealer to maintain exclusive facilities for a particular line make of motor vehicles; 4) taking certain adverse actions against a dealer for charging a lawful service fee to a retail customer; 5) taking certain adverse actions against a dealer because, without the dealer's knowledge that the purchaser intended to export the motor vehicle, a motor vehicle purchaser exported a motor vehicle; 6) with certain exceptions, requiring a dealer to provide the manufacturer, importer, or distributor with information regarding the dealer's retail customers; 7) transferring nonpublic customer information obtained from a dealer to another dealer or otherwise using nonpublic customer information obtained from a dealer for a nonpermitted use; and 8) failing to properly indemnify a dealer.

Under current law, a manufacturer, importer, or distributor must reasonably compensate a dealer that performs certain motor vehicle service work for the manufacturer, importer, or distributor. Covered service work is work to rectify product defects or other defects covered by the warranty provided by the manufacturer, importer, or distributor, certain motor vehicle delivery or preparation obligations, and any other work approved by the manufacturer, importer, or distributor. The manufacturer, importer, or distributor must compensate the dealer, for service, at the effective labor rate charged to all customers and, for parts, generally at not less than the amount the dealer charges other retail service customers for the parts. To be eligible for compensation, a dealer must notify the manufacturer, importer, or distributor of the amount that the dealer charges other retail service customers for parts. The manufacturer, importer, or distributor may require the dealer to provide documentary substantiation of the claimed amount the dealer charges for parts.

This substitute amendment requires most manufacturers, importers, or distributors to compensate a dealer based on the dealer's "effective nonwarranty labor rate" and "average percentage markup over dealer cost for parts." To be eligible for compensation, a dealer must provide the manufacturer, importer, or dealer with 100 sequential repair orders for qualifying nonwarranty repairs or all repair orders for qualifying nonwarranty repairs performed in a 90-day period. Qualifying nonwarranty repairs are repairs that are not covered by a warranty, but would be covered by the warranty of a manufacturer, importer, or distributor if the repaired vehicle was covered by the warranty. The effective nonwarranty labor rate is

determined by dividing the total customer labor charges for qualifying nonwarranty repairs by the total number of hours that would be allowed for the repairs if the repairs were made under the manufacturer's, importer's, or distributors time allowances. The dealer's average percentage markup over dealer cost for parts is determined by dividing total charges for parts for qualifying nonwarranty repairs by the total dealer cost for the parts. Within 30 days of receiving the substantiating repair orders, the manufacturer, importer, or distributor must begin compensating the dealer based on the rates calculated from the orders. If there is a conflict between the rates calculated by the manufacturer, importer, or distributor and the dealer, the manufacturer, importer, or distributor must provide a written notice and explanation of the dispute to the dealer. These changes to service compensation do not apply to manufacturers, importers, or distributors of motorcycles.

Under current law, with certain exceptions, when a manufacturer on direct dealership, a distributor on indirect dealership, or an importer on direct dealership (grantor) has entered into an agreement with a motor vehicle dealer and the grantor or dealer terminates, cancels, or does not renew the agreement, the grantor must pay to the dealer specified termination benefits. Among these benefits, the grantor must repurchase from the dealer unsold motor vehicles, parts, and accessories that meet certain criteria and pay the dealer a certain amount for the dealership facilities, but then the grantor is entitled to the possession and use of the dealership facilities. Among the exceptions that allow a termination without payment of benefits are the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of an agreement following a determination that the dealer engaged in fraud or theft against the grantor and the termination or cancellation of an agreement by a dealer without adequate notice.

This substitute amendment generally requires payment of termination benefits upon the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise that may constitute less than the entire agreement between the grantor and dealer. This substitute amendment also generally requires a grantor to provide several additional items of termination benefits, including removing signs from the dealership facility, in certain cases, and reimbursing the dealer for certain computer material and service contractual expenses and certain facility renovation expenses. In addition, if the cancellation or nonrenewal of a franchise is due to a manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's termination, cancellation, or discontinuation of a motor vehicle line make, the grantor must generally compensate the dealer in an amount not less than the fair market value of the terminated or nonrenewed franchise on the date immediately preceding the date the grantor announced the termination, cancellation, or discontinuation of the line make. The termination benefits changes do not apply to manufacturers, importers, or distributors of motorcycles. This substitute amendment also provides several additional exceptions that allow termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a franchise without the payment of termination benefits. These are termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal: 1) after revocation of a necessary dealer license; 2) based on the dealer's failure to remain open during customary business hours for seven consecutive days; 3) based on the dealer's conviction of certain crimes; and 4) based on the dealer being subject to a bankruptcy or receivership filing. These new

exceptions do not apply to manufacturers, importers, or distributors of motorcycles or their dealers.

This substitute amendment also requires a manufacturer, importer, or distributor, other than a manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles, to indemnify a dealer against certain claims alleging defective or negligent manufacture or design of the vehicle or its parts or accessories. Failure to adequately indemnify a dealer may result in the revocation of the manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's license or liability for the dealer's pecuniary losses and attorney fees.

---

***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

1           **SECTION 1.** 218.0116 (1) (km) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           218.0116 (1) (km) Being a manufacturer, importer, or distributor who violates  
3 s. 218.0121, 218.0122, 218.0123, 218.0124 ~~or~~, 218.0125, or 218.0128.

4           **SECTION 2.** 218.0116 (1) (rm) of the statutes is amended to read:

5           218.0116 (1) (rm) Being a grantor, as defined in s. 218.0133 (1) (b), except a  
6 motorcycle grantor, as defined in s. 218.0133 (1) (c), who fails to pay a motor vehicle  
7 dealer agreement franchise termination benefits under s. 218.0133 or being a  
8 motorcycle grantor who fails to pay a motor vehicle dealer agreement termination  
9 benefits under s. 218.0133.

10          **SECTION 3.** 218.0116 (1) (um) of the statutes is created to read:

11          218.0116 (1) (um) 1. In this paragraph, "site control contract" means a contract  
12 that grants authority to a manufacturer, importer, or distributor or an affiliate of a  
13 manufacturer, importer, or distributor, during the term of an agreement or after the  
14 termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal of an agreement, to control the disposition  
15 or use of or to lease the dealer's dealership facilities.

16          2. Being a manufacturer, importer, or distributor, except a manufacturer,  
17 importer, or distributor of motorcycles with respect to a dealer or prospective dealer  
18 of the manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles, who conditions entry

1 into an agreement or renewal of an agreement or approval of the addition of a line  
2 make of motor vehicles, franchise relocation, ownership or management change, or  
3 transfer of dealership assets on the entry by the dealer or prospective dealer into a  
4 site control contract or who coerces or attempts to coerce a dealer or prospective  
5 dealer to enter into a site control contract. This subdivision does not prohibit a site  
6 control contract for which the dealer or prospective dealer receives a separate and  
7 valuable consideration. This subdivision does not apply to a site control contract that  
8 is in existence on the effective date of this subdivision .... [LRB inserts date], unless  
9 the contract is amended, modified, changed, or renewed after the effective date of this  
10 subdivision .... [LRB inserts date].

11 **SECTION 4.** 218.0116 (1) (vm) of the statutes is created to read:

12 218.0116 (1) (vm) Unless the technology of a motor vehicle reasonably requires  
13 improvement of dealership facilities to accommodate the adequate sale and service  
14 of the motor vehicle or the reasonable business considerations of the manufacturer  
15 and dealer justify improvement of dealership facilities, being a manufacturer,  
16 importer, or distributor, except a manufacturer, importer, or distributor of  
17 motorcycles with respect to a dealer or prospective dealer of the manufacturer's,  
18 importer's, or distributor's motorcycles, who conditions entry into an agreement or  
19 renewal of an agreement or approval of the addition of a line make of motor vehicles,  
20 franchise relocation, ownership or management change, or transfer of dealership  
21 assets on the improvement of dealership facilities at a substantial cost to the dealer  
22 or prospective dealer or who coerces or attempts to coerce a dealer or prospective  
23 dealer to improve dealership facilities at a substantial cost to the dealer or  
24 prospective dealer. This paragraph does not prohibit improvement of dealership  
25 facilities at a substantial cost to the dealer or prospective dealer if the dealer or

1 prospective dealer has agreed to undertake the improvement and received a separate  
2 and valuable consideration for the improvement. The burden of proof to demonstrate  
3 the technological necessity or business justification of the facilities improvement is  
4 on the manufacturer, importer, or distributor. This paragraph does not apply to an  
5 agreement to improve dealership facilities at a substantial cost to the dealer or  
6 prospective dealer that is in existence on the effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB  
7 inserts date], unless the agreement is amended, modified, changed, or renewed after  
8 the effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB inserts date].

9 **SECTION 5.** 218.0116 (1) (wm) of the statutes is created to read:

10 218.0116 (1) (wm) Being a manufacturer, importer, or distributor, except a  
11 manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles with respect to a dealer of the  
12 manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles, who unreasonably requires  
13 or coerces or attempts to coerce a dealer to provide or maintain exclusive facilities  
14 for a particular line make of motor vehicles or unreasonably refuses to permit or  
15 approve the addition of another line make to the dealership facilities of a dealer  
16 taking into consideration the reasonable business considerations of the  
17 manufacturer, importer, or distributor and the dealer. The burden of proof to  
18 demonstrate the reasonableness of the provision or maintenance of exclusive  
19 facilities or the refusal to permit or approve the addition of another line make is on  
20 the manufacturer, importer, or distributor. This paragraph does not apply to an  
21 agreement for a dealer to provide or maintain exclusive facilities for a particular line  
22 make of motor vehicles and for which the dealer has received separate and valuable  
23 consideration that is in existence on the effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB  
24 inserts date], unless the agreement is amended, modified, changed, or renewed after  
25 the effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB inserts date].

1           **SECTION 6.** 218.0116 (1) (xm) of the statutes is created to read:

2           218.0116 (1) (xm) Being a manufacturer, importer, or distributor, except a  
3 manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles with respect to a dealer of the  
4 manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles, who charges back,  
5 withholds payment, denies vehicle allocation, or takes other adverse action against  
6 a dealer for charging a service fee to a retail customer in any amount that is not  
7 prohibited under ss. 218.0101 to 218.0163 or rules promulgated by the department  
8 of transportation under ss. 218.0101 to 218.0163.

9           **SECTION 7.** 218.0116 (1) (y) of the statutes is created to read:

10          218.0116 (1) (y) Being a manufacturer, importer, or distributor, except a  
11 manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles with respect to a dealer of the  
12 manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles, who charges back,  
13 withholds payment, denies vehicle allocation, or takes other adverse action against  
14 a dealer because a motor vehicle sold by the dealer has been exported to a foreign  
15 country unless the dealer knew or reasonably should have known that the purchaser  
16 intended to export the vehicle or resell the vehicle for export. If the motor vehicle is  
17 titled or registered in any state in this country, it is presumed that the dealer had no  
18 knowledge that the purchaser intended to export the vehicle or resell the vehicle for  
19 export. The manufacturer, importer, or distributor may rebut the presumption. The  
20 burden of proof to demonstrate that the dealer knew or reasonably should have  
21 known that the purchaser intended to export the vehicle or resell the vehicle for  
22 export is on the manufacturer, importer, or distributor.

23          **SECTION 8.** 218.0116 (1) (ym) of the statutes is created to read:

24          218.0116 (1) (ym) Being a manufacturer, importer, or distributor, except a  
25 manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles with respect to a dealer of the

1 manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles, who requires or coerces, or  
2 attempts to require or coerce, a dealer to provide the manufacturer, importer, or  
3 distributor with information regarding the retail customers of the dealer unless the  
4 information is necessary for the sale and delivery of a new motor vehicle to a retail  
5 buyer, to validate and pay customer or dealer incentives, for warranty  
6 reimbursement substantiation under s. 218.0125, or to enable the manufacturer,  
7 importer, or distributor to fulfill safety, recall, or other legal obligations.

8 **SECTION 9.** 218.0116 (1) (ys) of the statutes is created to read:

9 218.0116 (1) (ys) Being a manufacturer, importer, or distributor, except a  
10 manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles with respect to a dealer of the  
11 manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles, who transfers nonpublic  
12 customer information that was obtained from a dealer to another franchised dealer  
13 while the dealer from which the information was obtained remains a franchised  
14 dealer unless the dealer from which the information was obtained agrees to the  
15 transfer, or who uses any nonpublic personal information, as defined in 16 CFR 313.3  
16 (n), obtained from a dealer unless the use falls within an exception under 16 CFR  
17 313.14 or 313.15.

18 **SECTION 10.** 218.0116 (10) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 218.0116 (10) In addition to the licensor's authority to deny, suspend, or revoke  
20 a license under ss. 218.0101 to 218.0163, the division of banking, after public  
21 hearing, may issue a special order enjoining any licensee from engaging in any act  
22 or practice which is determined by the division of banking to be in violation of any  
23 provision of sub. (1), and the division of hearings and appeals may be petitioned to  
24 and, after notice and hearing, may issue such a special order ~~after notice and hearing~~

1 ~~thereon enjoining a licensee from engaging in any act or practice which the division~~  
2 ~~of hearing and appeals determines to be in violation of any provision of sub. (1).~~

3 **SECTION 11.** 218.0125 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 218.0125 (1) (intro.) and  
4 amended to read:

5 218.0125 (1) (intro.) In this section, “dealer;

6 (a) “Dealer cost” means the wholesale cost for a part as listed in the  
7 manufacturer’s, importer’s or distributor’s current price schedules or, if the part is  
8 not so listed, the dealer’s original invoice cost for the part.

9 **SECTION 12.** 218.0125 (1) (b) of the statutes is created to read:

10 218.0125 (1) (b) “Qualifying nonwarranty repairs” means nonwarranty repairs  
11 that would be covered by the warranty of a manufacturer, importer, or distributor if  
12 the vehicle being repaired was covered by the warranty. The term does not include  
13 routine maintenance.

14 **SECTION 13.** 218.0125 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 218.0125 (2) A manufacturer, importer, or distributor shall, for the protection  
16 of the buying public, specify the delivery and preparation obligations of its dealers  
17 before delivery of new motor vehicles to retail buyers. Except for a manufacturer,  
18 importer, or distributor of motorcycles with respect to a dealer of the manufacturer’s,  
19 importer’s, or distributor’s motorcycles, the specification shall be in writing. A copy  
20 of the delivery and preparation obligations of its dealers shall be filed with the  
21 department of transportation by every licensed motor vehicle manufacturer,  
22 importer, or distributor and shall constitute the dealer’s only responsibility for  
23 product liability as between the dealer and the manufacturer, importer, or  
24 distributor. Any mechanical, body, or parts defects arising from any ~~express or~~

1 implied warranties of the manufacturer, importer, or distributor shall constitute the  
2 manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's product or warranty liability. The

3 (2m) A manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles with respect to  
4 a dealer of the manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles shall  
5 reasonably compensate any authorized dealer who performs work to rectify the  
6 manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's product or warranty defects or delivery  
7 and preparation obligations or who performs any other work required, requested, or  
8 approved by the manufacturer, importer, or distributor or for which the  
9 manufacturer, importer, or distributor has agreed to pay, including compensation for  
10 labor at a labor rate equal to the effective labor rate charged all customers and for  
11 parts at an amount not less than the amount the dealer charges its other retail  
12 service customers for parts used in performing similar work by the dealer.

13 **SECTION 14.** 218.0125 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 218.0125 (3) To be eligible for compensation for parts under sub. (2) (2m), a  
15 dealer of motorcycles shall notify the manufacturer, importer, or distributor of  
16 motorcycles in writing of the amounts that the dealer charges its other retail service  
17 customers for parts and request that it be paid for parts in accordance with this  
18 section. The notice may be limited to the dealer's average markup over dealer cost  
19 that the dealer charges its other retail service customers for parts used to perform  
20 similar work. The notice shall be served upon the manufacturer, importer, or  
21 distributor not less than 30 days before the date on which the dealer requests that  
22 the manufacturer, importer, or distributor begin paying the dealer for parts at the  
23 stated amounts. The manufacturer, importer, or distributor shall pay the dealer, as  
24 provided in this section, at the amounts stated in the dealer notice for parts used in  
25 work performed on and after the beginning date stated in the notice. This section

1 applies to a manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles with respect to a  
2 dealer of the manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles and those  
3 dealers.

4 **SECTION 15.** 218.0125 (3m) of the statutes is created to read:

5 218.0125 **(3m)** (a) Subject to sub. (4m), a manufacturer, importer, or  
6 distributor, except a manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles with  
7 respect to a dealer of the manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles,  
8 shall reasonably compensate a dealer who performs work to rectify the product or  
9 warranty defects of the manufacturer, importer, or distributor or to satisfy delivery  
10 and preparation obligations of the manufacturer, importer, or distributor or who  
11 performs any other work required, requested, or approved by the manufacturer,  
12 importer, or distributor or for which the manufacturer, importer, or distributor has  
13 agreed to pay.

14 (b) Reasonable compensation under par. (a) for labor is equal to the dealer's  
15 effective nonwarranty labor rate multiplied by the number of hours allowed for the  
16 repair under the manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's time allowances used  
17 in compensating the dealer for warranty work. Reasonable compensation under par.  
18 (a) for parts is equal to the dealer's cost for the parts multiplied by the sum of 1 and  
19 the dealer's average percentage markup over dealer cost for parts.

20 (c) 1. The effective nonwarranty labor rate is determined, using the submitted  
21 substantiating orders under sub. (4m) (a) 2., by dividing the total customer labor  
22 charges for qualifying nonwarranty repairs in the repair orders by the total number  
23 of hours that would be allowed for the repairs if the repairs were made under the  
24 manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's time allowances used in compensating  
25 the dealer for warranty work.

1           2. A dealer's average percentage markup over dealer cost for parts is  
2 determined, using the submitted substantiating orders under sub. (4m) (a) 2., by  
3 dividing total charges for parts in the repair orders by the total dealer cost for the  
4 parts.

5           **SECTION 16.** 218.0125 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

6           218.0125 (4) The manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles with  
7 respect to a dealer of the manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles  
8 may require the dealer, at reasonable intervals, to provide the manufacturer,  
9 importer, or distributor with documents or information regarding a reasonable  
10 number of sales to other retail service customers of parts used by the dealer to  
11 perform similar work in order to substantiate that the amounts requested in the  
12 dealer's notice are consistent with the amounts that the dealer charges its other  
13 retail service customers for parts used by the dealer to perform similar work.

14           **SECTION 17.** 218.0125 (4m) of the statutes is created to read:

15           218.0125 (4m) (a) To be eligible for compensation for labor or parts under sub.  
16 (3m), a dealer shall submit to the manufacturer, importer, or distributor all of the  
17 following:

18           1. A written notice of the claimed effective nonwarranty labor rate or average  
19 percentage markup over dealer cost for parts.

20           2. Either 100 sequential repair orders for qualifying nonwarranty repairs or  
21 all repair orders for qualifying nonwarranty repairs performed in a 90-day period,  
22 whichever is less. All repair orders under this subdivision must be for repairs made  
23 no more than 180 days before the submission.

24           (b) Not more than 30 days after receiving a submission under par. (a), the  
25 manufacturer, importer, or distributor shall begin compensating the dealer based on

1 the effective nonwarranty labor rate or average percentage markup over dealer cost  
2 for parts that is substantiated by the submission. If the manufacturer, importer, or  
3 distributor disputes the dealer's claimed labor rate or markup, the manufacturer,  
4 importer, or distributor shall notify the dealer in writing that it disputes the labor  
5 rate or markup. A notice under this paragraph shall include a written explanation  
6 of the reason for the dispute, including the labor rate or markup that the  
7 manufacturer, importer, or distributor has determined is substantiated by the  
8 submission.

9 **SECTION 18.** 218.0125 (5) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 218.0125 (5) A manufacturer, importer, or distributor who fails to compensate  
11 a dealer for parts at an amount not less than the amount the dealer charges its other  
12 retail service customers for parts used to perform similar work shall not be found to  
13 have violated this section if the manufacturer, importer, or distributor shows that,  
14 for a manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles with respect to a dealer  
15 of the manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles, the amount is not  
16 reasonably competitive to the amounts charged to retail service customers by other  
17 similarly situated franchised motor vehicle dealers in this state for the same parts  
18 when used by those dealers to perform similar work or, for any other manufacturer,  
19 importer, or distributor, the amount is not reasonably competitive to the amounts  
20 charged to retail service customers by other similarly situated franchised motor  
21 vehicle dealers in this state in performing qualifying nonwarranty repairs.

22 **SECTION 19.** 218.0128 of the statutes is created to read:

23 **218.0128 Product liability.** A manufacturer, importer, or distributor, except  
24 a manufacturer, importer, or distributor of motorcycles with respect to a dealer of the  
25 manufacturer's, importer's, or distributor's motorcycles, shall defend, indemnify,

1 and hold harmless a dealer against any claim, judgment, or settlement for damages,  
2 court costs, expert witness fees, attorney fees, or other expenses arising out of a  
3 complaint, claim, or lawsuit to the extent that the complaint, claim, or lawsuit is  
4 caused by alleged defective or negligent manufacture, assembly, or design of a motor  
5 vehicle, part, or accessory by the manufacturer, importer, or distributor. If a  
6 complaint, claim, or lawsuit involves acts or omissions of both the manufacturer,  
7 importer, or distributor and the dealer, the manufacturer, importer, or distributor is  
8 not obligated to defend the dealer against a claim arising out of the dealer's alleged  
9 acts or omissions and is not obligated to indemnify the dealer against any part of a  
10 judgment or settlement that arises out of the dealer's alleged acts or omissions.

11 **SECTION 20.** 218.0133 (title) of the statutes is amended to read:

12 **218.0133** (title) **Agreement termination Termination benefits.**

13 **SECTION 21.** 218.0133 (1) (c) of the statutes is created to read:

14 218.0133 (1) (c) "Motorcycle grantor" means a manufacturer of motorcycles on  
15 direct dealership, a distributor of motorcycles on indirect dealership, or an importer  
16 of motorcycles on direct dealership, with respect to a dealer of the manufacturer's,  
17 importer's, or distributor's motorcycles, that has entered into an agreement with a  
18 motor vehicle dealer.

19 **SECTION 22.** 218.0133 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 218.0133 (2) (a) Except as provided in sub. (5) and subject to sub. (3), when a  
21 motorcycle grantor or motor vehicle a dealer of its motorcycles terminates, cancels,  
22 or does not renew an agreement ~~a~~, the motorcycle grantor shall pay a motor vehicle  
23 the dealer all of the termination benefits under pars. (b) to (e), and when a grantor  
24 that is not a motorcycle grantor or a dealer of its motor vehicles terminates, cancels,  
25 or does not renew a franchise, the grantor shall pay the motor vehicle dealer all of

1 the termination benefits under pars. (b) to (e). When a grantor that is not a  
2 motorcycle grantor terminates, cancels, or does not renew a franchise, the grantor  
3 shall pay the motor vehicle dealer the termination benefits under par. (f).

4 **SECTION 23.** 218.0133 (2) (b) 1. b. of the statutes is amended to read:

5 218.0133 (2) (b) 1. b. 218.0133 (2) (b) 1. b. The If the grantor is a motorcycle  
6 grantor, the motor vehicle has not been operated more than 300 miles for  
7 manufacturer's tests, predelivery tests, and motor vehicle dealer exchange in  
8 addition to operation required for motor vehicle delivery from the grantor. If the  
9 grantor is not a motorcycle grantor, the motor vehicle has not been operated more  
10 than 500 miles for manufacturer's tests, predelivery tests, and motor vehicle dealer  
11 exchange in addition to operation required for motor vehicle delivery from the  
12 grantor or another dealer of the same line make.

13 **SECTION 24.** 218.0133 (2) (b) 1. c. of the statutes is amended to read:

14 218.0133 (2) (b) 1. c. The motor vehicle was acquired as part of the motor vehicle  
15 dealer's original inventory or from the grantor or in the ordinary course of business  
16 from another motor vehicle dealer of the same line make who acquired the motor  
17 vehicle from the grantor.

18 **SECTION 25.** 218.0133 (2) (b) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

19 218.0133 (2) (b) 2. A motorcycle grantor may not be required to repurchase a  
20 motor vehicle under this paragraph unless the date on the original dealer invoice is  
21 within 12 months of the date on which the motor vehicle dealer terminates, cancels,  
22 or does not renew an agreement or is within 18 months of the date on which the  
23 grantor terminates, cancels, or does not renew an agreement. A grantor that is not  
24 a motorcycle grantor may not be required to repurchase a motor vehicle under this  
25 paragraph unless the vehicle is of the current or one-year prior model year or the

1 date on the original dealer invoice is within 12 months of the date on which the motor  
2 vehicle dealer terminates, cancels, or does not renew a franchise or is within 18  
3 months of the date on which the grantor terminates, cancels, or does not renew a  
4 franchise.

5 **SECTION 26.** 218.0133 (2) (d) of the statutes is renumbered 218.0133 (2) (d) 1.

6 **SECTION 27.** 218.0133 (2) (d) 2. of the statutes is created to read:

7 218.0133 (2) (d) 2. If the dealer leases a sign from the grantor or an entity  
8 controlled by the grantor, the grantor, except a motorcycle grantor, shall terminate  
9 or arrange for the termination of the lease.

10 **SECTION 28.** 218.0133 (2) (d) 3. of the statutes is created to read:

11 218.0133 (2) (d) 3. The grantor, except a motorcycle grantor, is responsible for  
12 the removal of a sign subject to subd. 1. or 2. from the dealership facility and shall  
13 bear the costs of the removal.

14 **SECTION 29.** 218.0133 (2) (f) of the statutes is created to read:

15 218.0133 (2) (f) The grantor, except a motorcycle grantor, shall reimburse the  
16 motor vehicle dealer for the amount of any obligations that extend beyond the  
17 effective date of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal under contracts for  
18 computer hardware, software, maintenance, or other related service entered into by  
19 the dealer and required by the grantor for 18 months or the remaining term of the  
20 contracts, whichever is less, unless the computer hardware, software, maintenance,  
21 or other related service was used to support the operations of a franchise other than  
22 the franchise that was terminated, cancelled, or not renewed.

23 **SECTION 30.** 218.0133 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 218.0133 (4) (a) Except as provided in sub. (5) and subject to ~~par.~~ pars. (d) and  
25 (f), when a grantor except a motorcycle grantor terminates, cancels, or does not

1 renew ~~an agreement~~ a franchise a grantor shall, upon request, pay a motor vehicle  
2 dealer the termination benefits under par. (b) or (c) and under par. (e), and when a  
3 motorcycle grantor terminates, cancels, or does not renew an agreement, a  
4 motorcycle grantor shall, upon request, pay a dealer the termination benefits under  
5 par. (b) or (c). If a motor vehicle dealer receives benefits under par. (b) or (c) and par.  
6 (f) does not apply, the grantor shall be entitled to the possession and use of the  
7 dealership facilities for the period that the termination benefits payment covers.

8 **SECTION 31.** 218.0133 (4) (e) of the statutes is created to read:

9 218.0133 (4) (e) If a dealer completed construction or renovation of its  
10 dealership facilities not more than 24 months before receiving the notice of the  
11 franchise termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal and the construction or  
12 renovation was required by the grantor, the grantor except a motorcycle grantor  
13 shall pay the dealer an amount equal to the dealer's actual cost for the construction  
14 or renovation, less any allowances or credits provided to the dealer by the grantor for  
15 the construction or renovation and less any tax savings accruing to the dealer's  
16 benefit prior to the notice of the franchise termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal  
17 from depreciation write-offs related to the construction or renovation.

18 **SECTION 32.** 218.0133 (4) (f) of the statutes is created to read:

19 218.0133 (4) (f) If the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal relates to fewer  
20 than all of the franchises operated by a dealer at a single location, the amount of the  
21 termination benefit under this subsection shall be based on the percentage of total  
22 square footage attributed to the franchise being terminated, cancelled, or not  
23 renewed at the effective date of the termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal. This  
24 paragraph does not apply to a motorcycle grantor.

25 **SECTION 33.** 218.0133 (5) (a) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

1           218.0133 (5) (a) 2. 218.0133 (5) (a) 2. A motor vehicle dealer who terminates  
2 or cancels an agreement with a motorcycle grantor without giving the grantor 60  
3 days' notice or the notice required under the agreement, whichever is less or who  
4 terminates or cancels a franchise with a grantor that is not a motorcycle grantor  
5 without giving the grantor 60 days' notice or the notice required under the  
6 agreement, whichever is less.

7           **SECTION 34.** 218.0133 (5) (a) 4d. of the statutes is created to read:

8           218.0133 (5) (a) 4d. A motor vehicle dealer who has any license that is required  
9 to operate its dealership revoked. This subdivision does not apply to a motorcycle  
10 grantor or a dealer of its motorcycles with respect to the motorcycle grantor.

11           **SECTION 35.** 218.0133 (5) (a) 4h. of the statutes is created to read:

12           218.0133 (5) (a) 4h. A termination, cancellation or nonrenewal based on the  
13 motor vehicle dealer's failure to conduct its customary sales and service operations  
14 during its customary business hours for 7 consecutive business days unless the  
15 failure is caused by an act of God, work stoppage or delays due to strikes or labor  
16 disputes, an order of the department of transportation or the division of hearings and  
17 appeals, or other circumstances beyond the dealer's control. This subdivision does  
18 not apply to a motorcycle grantor or a dealer of its motorcycles with respect to the  
19 motorcycle grantor.

20           **SECTION 36.** 218.0133 (5) (a) 4p. of the statutes is created to read:

21           218.0133 (5) (a) 4p. A termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal based on the  
22 conviction of a motor vehicle dealer of a crime involving theft, dishonesty, or false  
23 statement, or any other crime punishable by imprisonment for greater than one year.  
24 This subdivision does not apply to a motorcycle grantor or a dealer of its motorcycles  
25 with respect to the motorcycle grantor.

1           **SECTION 37.** 218.0133 (5) (a) 4t. of the statutes is created to read:

2           218.0133 **(5)** (a) 4t. A termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal based on the  
3 motor vehicle dealer being subject to a bankruptcy or receivership filing unless the  
4 petition is dismissed not more than 30 days after the filing date. This subdivision  
5 does not apply to a motorcycle grantor or a dealer of its motorcycles with respect to  
6 the motorcycle grantor.

7           **SECTION 38.** 218.0133 (5) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           218.0133 **(5)** (d) Subsection (4) does not apply if a motorcycle grantor  
9 terminates, cancels, or fails to renew an agreement in compliance with s. 218.0116  
10 (1) (i), unless the primary ground for termination, cancellation, or nonrenewal is  
11 inadequate sales performance by the motor vehicle dealer or if a grantor that is not  
12 a motorcycle grantor terminates, cancels, or fails to renew a franchise in compliance  
13 with s. 218.0116 (1) (i), unless the primary ground for termination, cancellation, or  
14 nonrenewal is inadequate sales performance by the motor vehicle dealer or  
15 termination, cancellation, or discontinuation of a motor vehicle line make.

16           **SECTION 39.** 218.0133 (6) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

17           218.0133 **(6)** (b) A motorcycle grantor may not make the termination benefits  
18 payments under sub. (2) or (4) contingent on the motor vehicle dealer releasing or  
19 waiving any rights, claims, or remedies and a grantor that is not a motorcycle grantor  
20 may not make the termination benefits payments under sub. (2), (4), or (7) contingent  
21 on the motor vehicle dealer releasing or waiving any rights, claims, or remedies.

22           **SECTION 40.** 218.0133 (7) of the statutes is created to read:

23           218.0133 **(7)** If a grantor except a motorcycle grantor cancels or fails to renew  
24 a franchise under s. 218.0132 (2), in addition to the termination benefits provided in  
25 subs. (2) and (4), the grantor shall compensate the dealer in an amount not less than

1 the fair market value of the franchise terminated or not renewed on the date  
2 immediately preceding the date the manufacturer, importer, or distributor publicly  
3 announced the termination, cancellation, or discontinuation of the line make that  
4 resulted in the franchise cancellation or nonrenewal. The manufacturer, importer,  
5 or distributor shall provide the compensation under this subsection not more than  
6 90 days after the effective date of the cancellation or nonrenewal.

7 **SECTION 41.** 218.0163 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 218.0163 (1) (a) A violation by any other licensee of s. 218.0116 (1) (bm), (f), (h),  
9 (hm), (i), (km), (L), (Lm), (mm), (pm), (q), (qm), (r), (rm), (s), (sm), (t), (u), (um), (v),  
10 (vm), (w), ~~or (wm)~~, (x), (xm), (y), (ym), or (ys).

11 **SECTION 42. Initial applicability.**

12 (1) This act first applies to an agreement that exists or is entered into on the  
13 effective date of this subsection.

14 (END)